

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 NEA-10

RSC-01 OMB-01 TAR-02 AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 OIC-04 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00

CIEP-02 CEA-02 INT-08 L-03 RSR-01 /180 W

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R 181710 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9412

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

/ USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (R E F E R E N C E - 091288 I / O 091208)

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD, GATT, FAO

SUBJECT: UNCTAD: COMMODITY CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 91208

BEGIN SUMMARY: GROUP B (DEVELOPED COUNTRIES) COORDINATOR
HAS INFORMED UNCTAD SG THAT GROUP ACCEPTS HIS PROGRAM
FOR INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS ON COMMODITIES WITH CERTAIN
UNDERSTANDINGS. SG REACTED FAVORABLY. MISSION EXPLAINED
DETAILS OF US POSITION SEPARATELY TO SECRETARIAT. WHILE
SOME MINOR MATTERS REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED, IMPLEMENTATION
OF PROGRAM CONTINUES REST ON FINDING ACCEPTABLE FORMULA TO
COVER DIFFERENCES BETWEEN LATINS AND AFRICANS ON COFFEE.
SG LEFT TODAY FOR LATIN AMERICAN TO DISCUSS SITUATION
WITH BRAZIL AND COLOMBIA. END SUMMARY
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1. GROUP B COORDINATOR (STAEHFLIN - SWITZERLAND) INFORMED US VIEW AS CONTAINED REFTEL MAY 15. STAEHELIN CIRCULATED NOTE TO GROUP B DELS FOLLOWING DAY INFORMING GROUP B DELS OF SUBSTANCE OF WHAT HE SAID TO UNCTAD SG PEREZ-GUERRERO (P- G) AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 2 BWLOW.

2. GROUP B AS A WHILE ACCEPTED WORK PROGRAM WHICH WAS SUGGESTED CONCERNING ORGANIZATION OF INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS. ACCEPTANCE IS LINKED TO UNDERSTANDING THAT OTHER GROUPS WILL ALSO AGREE. IF MODIFICATIONS ARE PROPOSED, GROUP B EXPECTS TO BE CONSULTED. IT IS GROUP B ' S VIEW THAT CONSULTATIONS DOES NOT PREJUDGE IN ANY WAY ATTITUDE THAT EACH DEL WILL TAKE ON THE CONSULTATIONS THEMSELVES. RE COFFEE SG SAID HE GOING TO LATIN AMERICA AND WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION WOULD BE FOUND.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH MISOFF, SWISS REP SAID STAEHELIN HAD MADE CLEAR THAT WHAT INVISAGED ARE CONSULTATIONS AND NOT NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT INDIVIDUAL DELS NOT COMMITTED TO PARTICIPATION IN EVERY CONSULTATION. PG REACTED FAVORABLY TO GROUP B RESPONSE. STAEHELIN MADE POINT IN NAME OF SPAIN ONLY THAT OLIVE OIL SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN CONSULTATIONS ON FATS AND OILS.

4. AS FOLLOW UP, MISOFF CALLED ON DIRECTOR OF COMMODITIES DIVISION (CHIDZERO) MAY 17. CHIDZERO HAD NOT YET RECEIVED REPORT FROM PG. MISOFF COVERED IN DETAIL ALL POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL. WHILE THERE STILL NUMBER OF MINOR MATTERS TO BE RESOLVED, CHIDZERO SAID WHOLE PROGRAM ON CONSULTATIONS NOW RESTED ON RESOLUTION OF COFFEE PROBLEM. PG LEAVING MAY 18 FOR RIO TO ATTEND A MEETING AND HOPES GET LATINS AGREE PUT COFFEE IN PHASE I OF LIST WITHOUT MENTIONING A DATE FOR CONSULTATIONS. MATTER WOULD THEN BE SENT TO COFFEE COUNCIL WHICH COULD DO AS IT WISHES. CHIDZERO DID NOT SPECIFY WHETHER FOREGOING ACCEPTABLE TO AFRICANS. HE SEES ISSUE NOW AS FINDING FACE- SAVING FORMULA. IF NO COMPROMISE REACHED, CHIDZERO SAID WILL BE NECESSARY TAKE MATTER TO TDB OR EVEN CALL SPECIAL SESSION OF COMMITTEE ON COMMODITIES. FAO SAID WILL NEED KNOW SITUATION BY FIRST WEEK OF JUNE. FOLLOWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OTHER DETAILED POINTS EMERGED.

A) USSR - LOCAL DEL ASKED MANY QUESTIONS ON HANDLING OF INVITATIONS FROM FAO BUT SEEMED IMPLY THERE UNLIKELY BE PROBLEM IF ALL OTHER GROUPS ACCEPT PROGRAM. INSTRUCTIONS SOUGHT AND NO FORMAL RESPONSE YET RECEIVED.

B) GROUP OF 77 - SOME DELS NOT HAPPY ABOUT INCLUSION CERTAIN COMMODITIES (BRAZIL - MANAGANESE ORE) BUT

WILLING GO ALONG, ASIANS INSISTED THAT JUTE ALSO COVERS ALLIED FIBERS AND THAT HARD FIBERS INCLUDE ABACA; FAO SAID MAIN ATTENTION WOULD BE GIVEN TO PRINCIPAL COMMODITY BUT OTHERS WOULD BE MENTIONED. CHIDZERO SAW PRICING POLICY AS MAIN PROBLEM FOR HARD FIBERS BUT SAID HAD NO DETAILED IDEAS AT THIS TIME.

:) COTTON PLACE AND DATE OF SESSION SHOULD BE IN SQUARE BRACKETS, UNCTAD HAS WRITTEN TO ICAC AND IS AWAITING A REPLY.

D) COCOA. AFRICANS NO LONGER PUSHING FOR CONSULTATIONS.

E) OLIVE OIL. CHIDZERO SAID THIS COULD NOT BE TREATED WITH FATS AND OILS BECAUSE WOULD VIOLATE PRINCIPLE OF RES 7 VII THAT COMMODITIES BE HANDLED IN EXISTING COMMODITY BODIES. NOT SURE HOW ISSUE WILL BE RESOLVED.

5. IN COURSE CONVERSATION, MISOFF TRIED CLARIFY WHO WILL BE INVITED TO CONSULTATIONS, CHIDZERO SAID RESOLUTION REQUIRED SECRETARIAT TO INVITE
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